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## Second Committee

**Summary record of the 37th meeting**
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 1 December 2011, at 3 p.m.

*Chair*: Mr. Momen ..... (Bangladesh)

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*The meeting was called to order at 3.30 p.m.*

**Agenda item 17: Macroeconomic policy questions** (*continued*)

**(a) International trade and development** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.50)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.50: Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries*

1. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution submitted by Argentina on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications. Belarus had joined the list of sponsors. A recorded vote had been requested.

2. **Mr. Sammis** (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that his country believed that each Member State had the sovereign right to decide how it conducted trade with other countries. In particular, it believed that promoting important nationally held values or protecting the national interest was a sovereign right that justified restricting trade when necessary. The Charter of the United Nations specifically provided for sanctions as part of a broader strategy of political and diplomatic measures that could help to promote or restore peace without the use of force. Economic sanctions, whether unilateral or multilateral, were often a successful means of achieving foreign policy objectives. The United States considered its sanctions carefully and used them with specific objectives in mind, including as a means to promote a return to the rule of law or democracy or in response to threats to international security. In effect, the draft resolution sought to limit the international community's ability to respond by non-violent means to threats to democracy, human rights or global security. The United States had therefore requested a recorded vote on the draft resolution and would be voting against it.

3. **Mr. Laguna** (Mexico), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, reiterated Mexico's rejection of the use of unilateral economic measures as a means of coercion against States. Such measures, which had serious humanitarian consequences, had no basis in the Charter of the United Nations and violated international law. Sanctions, whether political, economic or military, must be imposed only in pursuance of decisions or recommendations of the Security Council or the General Assembly, not through the extraterritorial application of national laws. Multilateralism and dialogue remained the best way of resolving conflicts between States. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

4. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.50.*

*In favour*:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

*Against*:

Israel, United States of America.

*Abstaining*:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan,

Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

5. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.50 was adopted by 118 votes to 2, with 49 abstentions.*

6. **Ms. Klausa** (Poland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the candidate countries Croatia, Iceland, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the stabilization and association process countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; and, in addition, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, said that her delegation and those of the countries on whose behalf she spoke had abstained in the vote. Unilateral economic measures should respect the principles of international law and the international contractual obligations of the State applying them, together with the rules of the World Trade Organization, where applicable. Such measures were admissible in certain circumstances, in particular to combat terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and uphold respect for human rights, democracy, the rule of law and good governance. The European Union remained committed to the use of sanctions as part of an integrated, comprehensive policy approach, which should include political dialogue, incentives, conditionality and even, as a last resort, coercive measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

7. **Mr. Jawhara** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that, despite repeated calls by the international community, certain States continued to serve their own interests by applying coercive measures against developing countries, thus showing their disdain for United Nations resolutions and for the rights of peoples to development. Those States, which claimed to be giving others a lesson, applied double standards, since in that they did not denounce Israel or condemn its blockade against the Palestinian people or that of the United States against Cuba. Such measures increased unemployment, spread poverty and disempowered women in the countries targeted. His delegation called on Member States to reject such unilateral measures and to respect international law, particularly the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

**(b) International financial system and development** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.5 and L.69)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.69: International financial system and development*

8. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution submitted by Mr. Zdorov (Belarus), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.5. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

9. **Ms. Montel** (France) said that the French version of the draft resolution was not fully in line with the English original.

10. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.69 was adopted, subject to editorial review of the French text.*

11. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66.L.5 was withdrawn.*

**Agenda item 19: Sustainable development** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.37 and L.41/Rev.1)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.37: Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America*

12. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution submitted by Honduras on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, joined by Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Finland, the Gambia, Greece, Grenada, Haiti, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Palau, the Philippines, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Seychelles, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey and the United Republic of Tanzania. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

13. **Mr. Oyarzun** (Spain) said that Spain was actively involved in efforts to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism in the Central American region, in particular through bilateral projects and regional programmes conducted by its Agency for International Cooperation. Sustainable tourism offered a means of stimulating the economy of the region, creating jobs for young people and contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), while preserving natural resources and respecting local communities.

14. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.37 was adopted.*

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.41/Rev.1: Agricultural technology for development*

15. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution submitted by Israel on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document, joined by Albania, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, El Salvador, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Switzerland, Tonga and Ukraine. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications. A recorded vote had been requested by the Group of Arab States.

16. **Mr. Jaber** (Lebanon), speaking on behalf of the Group of Arab States in explanation of vote before the voting, said that the draft resolution on agricultural development and food security already submitted by the Group of 77 and China under item 25 made it superfluous to adopt a draft resolution on agricultural development. Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.41/Rev.1 did not achieve a balance of interests between developed and developing countries and did not address such important issues as the transfer of agricultural technology, financing and market access for developing countries' products.

17. Israel, the last occupying Power of the present age, continued to violate numerous resolutions and decisions adopted by the Security Council, the General Assembly and other bodies of the United Nations system, thereby losing all credibility in the international community. A number of United Nations reports had recognized that Israel's policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, had severely impaired the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in particular through the uprooting and destruction of huge numbers of olive trees, depletion of drinking water, prevention of access to arable land and fishing waters, heavy taxation of agricultural products and restrictions on the movement of goods and persons.

18. Israel's motive in submitting the draft resolution was to cover up its destructive measures against agriculture in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and occupied Syrian Golan, perpetrated in particular for the benefit of illegal settlements. The Group of Arab States would therefore abstain from voting on the draft resolution and urged all Member States not to vote in favour of it.

19. *At the request of the representative of the Group of Arab States, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.41/Rev.1.*

*In favour*:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

*Against*:

None.

*Abstaining*:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei

Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen.

20. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.41/Rev.1 was adopted by 133 votes to none, with 35 abstentions.*

21. **Mr. Waxman** (Israel) observed that the broad spectrum of co-sponsors and supporters of the resolution — both developing and developed countries, from across cultures and climates — was a testament to the central importance and vast potential of agricultural technology. By adopting the draft resolution, the Committee was saying loud and clear that agricultural technology could build more resilient communities, stronger nations and a more prosperous planet. It could lift people out of poverty, empower rural women and help to feed the almost one billion people suffering from chronic hunger around the world. The resolution reaffirmed Israel's commitment to enact the policies necessary to support agricultural research and promote the dissemination of agricultural technologies to the developing world, with a particular focus on capacity-building, education and skills transfer.

22. Although Israel had hoped for consensus on the resolution, which was apolitical, there were some Member States that never missed an opportunity to politicize every issue, even those that fell well outside the realm of politics. The sad truth was that the countries that had called for a vote were among those that needed the resolution the most. The need for agricultural technology in the Middle East was undeniable: it was an issue that should bring all in the region together. By calling for a vote, those Member States had shown again that they were more concerned with scoring political points than with the well-being of their own citizens, who could benefit tremendously from agricultural technology.

**(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development** *(continued)* (A/C.2/66/L.30 and L.59)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.59: Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development*

23. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.30.

24. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) said that should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, requirements would arise for interpretation services in all six languages for a total of 57 meetings, and for documentation services to process 15 documents with an estimated total of 96,700 words into all six languages.

25. The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 made provision under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, for interpretation and documentation services in 2012 for the third session of the Preparatory Committee (six meetings) and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (six meetings). In addition, the envisaged conference workload for the Commission on Sustainable Development in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 was 40 meetings per year, and in paragraph 25 (c) of resolution 64/236, the General Assembly had decided that the Commission would postpone its multi-year programme of work for one year in 2012. Consequently, total budgetary provisions included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 could cover the requirements for 52 meetings and related documentation. Thus there would be a shortfall in resources for five meetings, or eight meetings if three plenary evening sessions were required in accordance with paragraph 3 of Annex II to the draft resolution on the organization of work for the plenary meetings. The Secretary-General would make every effort to cover the shortfall within existing resources, through more efficient use of resources available, including inter alia potential savings achievable from the PaperSmart initiative to be implemented for the United Nations

Conference on Sustainable Development and its preparatory process.

26. Thus, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.59, no additional requirements would arise for the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013, thanks to the absorption efforts made by the Secretary-General and on the understanding that the Government of Brazil would defray the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/243.

27. **Mr. de Azevedo** (Brazil) said that in the second line of paragraph 16, the word "voluntary" should be inserted before "trust fund".

28. **Ms. Montel** (France) pointed out that the French version of the draft resolution did not contain all of the most recent changes.

29. **The Chair** requested the secretariat to take note of that observation.

30. *Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.59, as orally revised, was adopted.*

31. **Ms. Bunge** (Argentina), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, noted their understanding that, as indicated in a note from the President of the General Assembly, agenda item 19 (a) would remain open until the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development had taken place.

32. *Draft decision A/C.2/66/L.30 was withdrawn.*

**(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.27 and L.64)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.64: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction*

33. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.27. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

34. **Mr. Laguna** (Mexico) said that the words "for disaster risk reduction" should be added at the end of paragraph 4.

35. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.64, as orally revised, was adopted.*

36. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.27 was withdrawn.*

**(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.44 and L.60)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.60: Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa*

37. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.44.

38. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the biennium 2012-2013 had been included in the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2012 and 2013 (A/66/32, Annex II).

39. Under the arrangements that had been in place since the adoption of resolution 58/242 in 2004, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.60 would not entail any additional requirements to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 on the understanding that the substantive secretariat would cover the incremental travel costs if the meetings were held outside of Bonn, the headquarters of the Convention, and that any additional meetings not included in the 2012-2013 calendar would be funded through extra-budgetary resources.

40. **Mr. Landveld** (Suriname), Rapporteur, said that in the last line of operative paragraph 12, "2017" should be "2016".

41. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.60, as orally revised, was adopted.*

42. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.44 was withdrawn.*

**(j) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.31 and L.66)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.66: Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy*

43. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations

on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.31. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

44. **Mr. Aliev** (Uzbekistan) said that his delegation wished to co-sponsor the draft resolution.

45. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.66 was adopted.*

46. **Ms. Volken** (Switzerland) observed that the draft resolutions in the sustainable development cluster had been finalized with remarkable dispatch, thanks in part to the assistance of the Bureau and the secretariat and in part to the working methods adopted. Particularly where draft resolutions were largely procedural, the delegations involved in the negotiations had tried to avoid the creation of new texts by modifying or adding to existing ones. Additionally, where possible, draft resolutions on substantive matters had been written to have a validity of two or even three years, thereby over time reducing the number of negotiating meetings that would be needed. She suggested that those various time-saving innovations should be repeated in future years.

47. While she understood the difficulties of small delegations, the fact that some delegations attended negotiations only at the very end of the process meant that when they did finally participate, they sometimes questioned wording already agreed upon by the delegations that had been involved from the start.

48. **Mr. Sammis** (United States of America) said that his delegation endorsed the comments of the Swiss delegation.

49. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.31 was withdrawn.*

**Agenda item 22: Groups of countries in special situations** (*continued*)

**(a) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.8 and L.61)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.61: Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries*

50. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by Mr. Donckel (Luxembourg), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.8.

51. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the requirements for the servicing of the Ad Hoc Working Group meetings called for by paragraph 16 of the draft resolution would be covered from the budgetary provision for the servicing of the General Assembly on the understanding that there would be no parallel meetings of the General Assembly or its working groups at the same time. The processing in all six languages of the report called for in the same paragraph would require an additional amount of $64,200 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, which the Secretary-General would make every effort to absorb. Accordingly, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.61 would not entail any additional programme budget implications for the biennium 2012-2013.

52. **Mr. Donckel** (Luxembourg), Vice-Chair, informed the Committee of a number of minor editorial changes to the draft resolution and said that in paragraph 2, second line, the reference in parentheses to the European Union should be deleted; at the end of paragraph 8, after "to do the same", the words "in an expeditious manner as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates" should be added; at the end of paragraph 9, after "good governance at all levels", the words: "in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner" should be added.

53. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.61, as orally revised, was adopted.*

54. **Mr. Bahattarai** (Nepal), speaking on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries, welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus and called on all States that had not yet done so to integrate the Programme of Action into their policies with the aim of enabling half of the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020.

55. **Mr. Latriche** (Observer for the European Union) likewise welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution. Within the framework of their bilateral and regional programmes, the European Union and its member States remained determined to help the least developed countries to meet their graduation objective, while fully respecting the principle of those countries' ownership of their own development, and looked forward to participating actively in the work of the proposed Ad Hoc Working Group.

56. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.8 was withdrawn.*

57. **The Chair** said he took it that the Committee wished to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the 10-year appraisal and review of the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, contained in document A/66/66-E/2011/78.

58. *It was so decided.*

**(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation** (*continued*) (A/C/66/L.14 and L.65)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.65: Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation*

59. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by Mr. Donckel (Luxembourg), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.14.

60. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the resources required to service that conference and meetings referred to in paragraphs 21 and 22 of the draft resolution would be dealt with in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015, on basis of the decision by the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the organizational aspects of the conference and meetings of the preparatory committee, in particular, the duration and estimated workload for conference services.

61. In accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 40/243 the review conference and the intergovernmental preparatory committee meetings were to be held in New York. If, however, the General Assembly decided that the review conference would be held away from New York, the host Government would need to defray the additional direct or indirect costs, in accordance with paragraph 5 of that resolution. Accordingly, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.65 would not entail any additional programme budget implications for the biennium 2012-2013.

62. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.65 was adopted.*

63. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.14 was withdrawn.*

**Agenda item 23: Eradication of poverty and other development issues** (*continued*)

**(a) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.15 and L.67)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.67: Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)*

64. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by Mr. Donckel (Luxembourg), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.15.

65. **Ms. Geissle** (Germany) requested the Secretariat to correct the Spanish and French versions of the draft resolution. In those two versions, the word "notes" had been omitted in the third line of paragraph 14, before "other initiatives", and, in the French version, the words "with a focus on youth unemployment" had been omitted at the end of paragraph 24 .

66. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) said that in the absence of specific information on the format, scope and modalities of the meeting and preparatory activities referred to in paragraph 22 of the draft resolution, the Secretariat was unable as yet to determine the conference-servicing requirements. If the draft resolution was adopted, the Secretariat would submit details of the financial implications, if applicable, in accordance with established procedures once the modalities of the meeting and preparatory activities were known.

67. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.67, as orally revised, was adopted.*

68. **Ms. Klausa** (Poland), speaking on behalf of the European Union and its member States, said that they remained strongly committed to the eradication of poverty and were collectively the largest supporters of the efforts of the developing countries to achieve the MDGs, having provided them with $70 billion in 2010. Despite the current severe economic situation, the European Union's commitment to the target of 0.7 per

cent of gross national income to be provided as official development assistance had been reaffirmed at the highest political level. Achievement of the MDGs, including Goal 1 on halving the rate of poverty by 2015, was still possible and must remain the focus of the international community's efforts. In addition, the European Union was looking forward to engaging in the discussions on a post-2015 framework.

69. The European Union attached great importance to the principles of aid effectiveness as underlined in the Paris Principles and the Accra Agenda for Action. Those principles stressed that any consideration of the need for a global strategy on youth employment or unemployment should build on national, regional and global strategies, including work being done by the International Labour Organization and the Group of 20, as agreed at the United Nations High-level Meeting on Youth in July 2011.

70. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.15 was withdrawn.*

**(b) Women in development** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.12 and L.62)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.62: Women in development*

71. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by Mr. Donckel (Luxembourg), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.12. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

72. **Ms. Ornbrant** (Sweden) said that in the fifth line of the sixth preambular paragraph, the words "that" after "recognizing" and "is" after "role" should be deleted. In the fifth line of paragraph 8, "the" before "food crisis" should be deleted. In the seventh line of paragraph 16, the words "involvement with" should be deleted. She had been informed that there were some errors in the French version of the draft resolution.

73. **Ms. Boissiere** (Trinidad and Tobago) said that her delegation wished to co-sponsor the draft resolution.

74. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.62, as orally revised, was adopted.*

75. **Mr. Sammis** (United States of America), noting the references in the draft resolution to the food crisis currently impacting some countries, particularly in the Horn of Africa, drew attention to the view expressed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations that the crisis was not, in fact, a worldwide phenomenon.

76. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.12 was withdrawn.*

**(c) Human resources development** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.10 and L.63)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.63: Human resources development*

77. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by Mr. Donckel (Luxembourg), Vice-Chair of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.10. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

78. **Mr. Donckel** (Luxembourg), Vice-Chair, said that in the penultimate line of the tenth preambular paragraph, "inhabitants of rural areas" should be replaced by "rural inhabitants". In the second line of paragraph 8, the words "and the International Labour Organization Member States to implement" should be added after "consider implementing"; in the third line of the same paragraph, the words "to meet" should be deleted; and in the last line of paragraph 10, the comma after the words "including workers" should be deleted.

79. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.63, as orally revised, was adopted.*

80. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.10 was withdrawn.*

**Agenda item 26: Towards global partnerships** (*continued*) (A/C.2/66/L.43/Rev.1)

*Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.43/Rev.1: Towards global partnerships*

81. **The Chair** invited the Committee to take action on the draft resolution, submitted by the delegation of Poland on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

82. **Mr. Latriche** (Observer for the European Union) said that fostering global partnerships had widespread benefits. The private sector and other relevant stakeholders had important contributions to make as well as responsibilities and obligations to fulfil, and should be encouraged to engage with the work of the United Nations and contribute towards its goals. The United Nations Global Compact and the many partnerships involving United Nations agencies, funds

and programmes played an important role in promoting dialogue and cooperation between the United Nations and the private sector.

83. The draft resolution had been submitted to highlight progress made over the past two years in fostering global partnerships and to pave the way for a more coherent strategic approach of partnership with the private sector, which would add an important building block to the global governance architecture. In addition to the countries listed in the document, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Georgia, Madagascar, New Zealand, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and the United States of America had joined the list of co-sponsors.

84. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Committee) announced that Benin, Costa Rica, Eritrea, Guatemala, Liberia, Seychelles and San Marino had also joined the list of co-sponsors.

85. *Draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.43/Rev.1 was adopted.*

86. **Mr. Errázuriz** (Chile) said that the international community attached increasing importance to global partnerships and to the need to create sources of cooperation between the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society in order to resolve the challenges of development in a globalized world. Chile welcomed the resolution, particularly its call for promotion of gender equality in the workplace, and its request to the United Nations Global Compact Local Networks to promote the Women's Empowerment Principles.

*The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.*